
Title: Yew Constitution

Author:

So far these ideas have been approved by the Assembly, and/or by consensus of the elected Officers:

1. That a two-house legislature be established, consisting of an Assembly (whomever attends the meeting votes and proposes various issues) and a Senate (composed of Representatives from all interested Guilds of Yew).

1a. They will meet at seperate times, except during Elections of Offices, although a log or transcript should be kept for public record of the vote counts and debates conducted.

1b. Senators shall approve or reject Treaties and Executive Appointments (District Attorneys, Court Justices except for the Supreme Justice - who is elected by all, and high-level Officers of the Militia below that of Commander - who is elected directly by all). Senators can attend, but cannot not vote, in the Assembly.

1c. All punishments or impeachments must arise in the Senate, which then are voted on by the Assembly. If a 2/3 majority in both houses votes for impeachment, that Senator or Executive must resign immediately.

No Assemblyman can be removed for any reason.

1d. Assemblies have sole domain in allocating money and spending it as they see fit. Assemblies may pass laws and statutes except those interfering with certain rights that will be discussed later.

2. That a Judicial Branch should be established, ruling over Criminal and Civil Cases.

2a. Judicial Review may declare certain acts that interfere with the Rights of Citizens "unconstitutional" and void.

Executives enforcing these laws would be subject to impeachment and/or criminal charges.

2b. The Supreme Court Justice shall give guidance on the Virtue of Justice, and may consider appeals from lower courts and other districts, as the Yew Court is the Supreme Court of all Britannia.> 2c. The Supreme Court Justice shall appoint lesser Court Judges as necessary to rule in Criminal and Civil Cases.

2d. Lawyers shall be certified by the requirements stated by The Chief Justice, subject to their approval by the Senate.

2e. Civil and Criminal Cases arising within the boundaries of Yew only, may be brought to Trial here, although if both parties consent, any case in the land may be heard here.

2f. The Supreme Court Judge is to be called, "The/Your Supreme Justice". Lesser judges are simply, "Your Justice"

or "The Justice". He is elected to a 10 month term (to make administration easy). He should be a person of Respect, embodying Virtue and above all a sense of Justice. He is elected directly.

3. An executive branch shall exist to enforce the laws, defend the Constitution, and to protect against outside and internal aggression.

3a. The Officers of the Executive shall consist of a Mayor, a Secretary, and a Militia Commander. All executives shall be elected for 5 "Earth" Months.

3aa. The Mayor shall represent Yew in all official functions in Britannia, or appoint ambassadors for this purpose. The Mayor shall preside over all official functions (events, town fairs, etc.) in Yew, and shall open and close them all. The Mayor is also the head of the executive, and may direct other officers. In the case of insubordination, the Mayor may request the Senate to impeach, but may not himself remove any officer. The Mayor is to be addressed as either "His/Her/Your Honor" or "Governor" (as they say in NYC, "Hizzonah").

3bb. The Secretary shall edit the Webpage of Yew, and is in charge of official counts and tallies and censuses (censi?). He may appoint officers to assist him as well. He should be addressed as "Mr. Secretary" or "Minister". His underlings

may be addressed as
"Assistant Minister" or
"Assistant Secretary".

3cc. The Militia

Commander shall provide
organisation and leadership
of the Militia, and may
appoint under officers of
the Militia. He is
responsible for the
defence of the town and
the Greater Yew area,
and may offer bounties
and other rewards for
service, as well as give
medals or other citations.

The Commander may be
addressed as

"Marshal

1 / General /

Commander".

3b. Any successful
criminal charge
against a standing officer
results in immediate
removal of that person.

3c. Order of
Succession for the Mayor
and Secretary, in case of
death or removal until a
new election: Mayor

- Secretary -

Speaker of the Assembly

- Senate or Speaker -

Assembly Majority Leader

Assembly Minority
Leader

3d: In the case of the
death of the Militia
Commander, the next
highest officer shall take
his place, and so down
the list of militia
officers until all appointed
officers are exhausted, in
which case the Militia
shall "go guerilla" until a
new commander is
appointed. The new
commander should be
"confirmed" in a Senate
Vote as soon as possible.

4. The Rights of Man
as held by all Reasonable
and Honourable Peoples:

4a: The Right of the

People to freely assemble
shall not be infringed.

4b: The Right of the
People to speak freely
shall no be infringed.

4c: The Right of the
People to bear arms and
armour (hehe) shall not
be infringed.

4d: The Right of the
People to choose their
creed, religion, and
philosophy shall not be
infringed.

4e: The Right of the
People to be secure in
their Property and
Livelihood shall not be
infringed by the
Government - no banning
of specific lifestyles or
goods.

4f: Bills of Attainder
shall not issue (no
retroactive laws).

4g: Income taxes
prohibited as a method of
raising taxes.

4h: Sales and Head
Taxes should be
reasonable and not
dictated by class or title,
no more than once per
Earth month. (Not that
I recommend mandatory
taxation at all, but we
could try a "voluntary
tax")

4i: All Citizens may
attend the Assembly and
vote, except Executives,
the Supreme Justice, and
Senators, who may attend
and debate but not vote.

4j: All Citizens may
vote for the Executive
and Justice, regardless of
Office, Sex, Class, or
Title. IMPORTANT:
Proceedures in the House:
The first meeting of the
Assembly and Senate
should do the following-
Elect a Speaker, who
sets the agenda and
adheres to it. Set rules
for speaking and debating
(for example, someone

must be seconded by another, and then recognized by the Speaker). Set up some common-sense Committees, like the Senate Militia Committee, which reviews the performance of Militiamen; or the Assembly Appropriations Committee, which makes a preliminary recommendation of how to spend money.

Points and Counter-points about this Constitution should be submitted under this post at Atlantic Notepads, until a Yew BB system is up...